Assembly and held many demonstrations outside. But so for, the Punjab Government is not prepared to give them their reservation rights.

I request the Central Government to immediately write to Punjab Government to give to the backward classes their rights of reservation so that the youth may make use of those rights.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip): Sir, the National Highways are in a very bad condition. The State Government is taking initiative to improve upon the infrastructure with their meagre fund. Now, the National Highways have been neglected for a long time. The input cost is growing high due to damage of roads on the National Highways. The extra fuel cost comes around Rs. 15,000 crore every year and accidents caused by vehicles have increased many-fold.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Union Government that the National Highways Nos. 34 and 35 are situated in West Bengal. The National Highway number 34 is so much damaged that vehicles cannot ply on them properly. Again, a bypass by name Shantipur is supposed to be completed on the National Highway No. 34. However, due to delay in work, the bypass has not yet been completed.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to sanction some funds so that repair work of the National Highway No. 34 can be completed. I also request the Government to complete the work pertaining to Shantipur bypass at the earliest so that smooth running of vehicles can be maintained.

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL (Varanasi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Four months back, Kashi Hindu University cancelled the affiliation of D.A.V. Degree College. During the course of the last four months, since I became a Member of this House, I have made two dozen requests to raise this issue. You gave me this chance today for which I express my heart-felt thanks to you. This is the first case in the country of cancelling such affiliation. Nearly 58 years ago, Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya had with great affection affiliated this D.A.V. college in Kashi to the Kashi Hindu University, but the present Vice Chancellor cancelled that affiliation four months back.

I had met the Minister of Human Resource Development in this connection and given him a letter. There is, however, no reply from him even after 3 months, 10 days. A delegation had also met him. I have requested the President also to intervene in the matter. There has been no admission of students in that collage for the last four months and teacher are without work. The friends and colleagues of the Mahamana had set up the Dayanand Degree College and had built it up with the help of all the property they had, but the affiliation of that college stands cancelled today. I want to urge upon the Government that if there is some difficulty in regard to admissions in the college, the Kashi Hindu University can take this matter in its own hands. It is already the body holding the examinations. The affiliation of the college should continue.

SHRI M.P. JAISWAL (Betia): Sir, it is a very serious matter. There are two sugar mills in my constituency belonging to B.I.C. company—one at Chatia in East Champaran and the other at Chanpatia in West Champaran. Both the sugar mills are closed for the last three years. The Ministry of Textiles supervises them. Nearly Rs. 7 crores of dues remain to be paid to the farmers of the region. On account of the flood-prone Gandhak river, these farmers cannot grow any other crop in that area. It is only the sugarcane crops that remains immune to the flooding of the river and that is why the farmers there grow only sugarcane. I request the Government of India to start the two sugar mills at Chatia and Chanpatia in the coming season and issue orders for payment of dues to the farmers to save them from starvation.

SHRI SHARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, nearly 50,000 people belonging to Bolangir constituency and its adjoining areas of Kalahandi, Phulbani and Korapur have left their homes and migrated to Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh due to starvation. As many as five former Prime Ministers have visited the area and the former Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao had also prepared a scheme. However, the funds that were to be given by the Centre to Orissa under that scheme have not yet been released by the Central Government and, as Bhai Bhakt Das was pointing out today, in the neighbouring Kalahandi district nearly 300 people have died of starvation. I, therefore, request the Government to come out with a statement.

[English]

Whether they are interested to give some funds to the backward district of Orissa or not. Sir, the Government should react ...*(Interruptions)*. Sir, this is a very serious matter ...*(interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think we should start a practice of Ministers replying to every question raised in Zero Hour. It will be a very bad precedent.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may reply in exceptional cases, but not in every case.